



IESA CHEERLEADING

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS & MINUTES

January 9, 2009

The following members were present for the meeting: Coaches; Sue Nevius, Bloomington Holy Trinity; Jennifer Vaughan, Forrest Prairie Central; Rosemary Keenan, Dunlap MS; Alisha Bromberek, Homer Glen Homer; and Laura Duesing, Orland Hills St. Bernardin, and Dana Isackson, IESA Board Liaison, Macomb. Also present was IHSA licensed cheer judge, Laurie Wager, Mascoutah.

The IESA Cheerleading Advisory Committee, in its meeting of January 9, 2009, makes the following recommendations to the Board of Directors for their January 23, 2009 meeting:

1. By 3.140 currently reads as follows: Limits on free passes to the IESA state tournament series shall be two managers, two statisticians, one scorekeeper, and 12 cheerleaders for all athletic activities, except volleyball. Cheerleaders must be in uniform to be admitted free. There shall be a maximum of 12 cheerleaders cheering on the floor at one time. Due to space restrictions, cheerleaders are not permitted on the floor during the state series in wrestling. No cheerleaders are allowed for the IESA state series in volleyball and none may be admitted free. The recommendation is to change it so it reads as follows:

Limits on free passes to the IESA state tournament series shall be two managers, two statisticians, one scorekeeper, and 12 cheerleaders for all athletic activities, except volleyball. Cheerleaders must be in uniform to be admitted free. ***There shall be a maximum of 12 cheerleaders performing sideline cheers on the floor at one time, provided the facility can safely accommodate this number. A game official may always ask for the sidelines (endlines) to be kept clear and reduce this number for the safety of the players.*** Due to space restrictions, cheerleaders are not permitted on the floor during the state series in wrestling. No cheerleaders are allowed for the IESA state series in volleyball and none may be admitted free.

In addition, to add the following Q & A to the Handbook:

Q: My cheer squad consists of 16 cheerleaders. When may they perform?

A: During play, only 12 can be cheering at one time provided the space can safely accommodate 12 cheerleaders. During full timeouts, between quarters, and at halftime, all 16 may perform provided the squad can complete their performance without stopping play.

2. To update the "Vault" section of the Cheerleading Terms & Conditions so it is in compliance with NFHS rule 2-14.
3. To change the point deductions for a major violation from 10 pts. per judge to 5 points per judge and a boundary infraction from 2 pts. per judge per incident to a 1 pt. per judge per incident.

Many items about the state competition were discussed. The score sheets will be distributed in a different manner in future years due to a problem that was encountered this year. The score sheets will only be given to the head coach in a location away from the competition area after the results have been announced. IESA staff will work with the Civic Center staff to create a 3 ft "no seating zone" around the competition mats. This is for the safety of the performing cheerleaders as well as the fans. Staff will also coordinate a better entrance/exit flow after the morning performances when the afternoon crowds begin to arrive. Discussion was held concerning a defined start and finish to the competitive season. The committee was not in favor of mandating a starting and ending season for the competitive squads because many teams only enter one or two competitions per year. Additional discussion was held about positioning of the technical judges, the perceived funding amounts some squads receive/don't receive, the possibility of conducting competition based on stunting levels (which received no support) and additional medals (no recommendation).

Sue Nevius and Jennifer Vaughan were recognized for their service to the committee. The next meeting of the committee was set for January 8, 2010.